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PATENT  
3743  
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of: §  
HANNIGAN, Raymond R. §  
et al §  
Serial No.: 09/937,937 §  
Filed: October 2, 2001 §  
§

Examiner: LEWIS, Kim M.  
Group Art Unit: 3743  
Attorney Docket No.: VAC.482.US

For: VACUUM ASSISTED  
CLOSURE SYSTEM WITH  
HEATING AND COOLING  
PROVISION

<p>CERTIFICATE OF MAILING 37 C.F.R. § 1.8 I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date below: 18 February 2005 Date Susan Love</p>
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MAIL STOP AMENDMENT  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

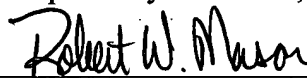
Dear Sir or Madam:

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**  
**UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.97**  
**Second Supplemental Statement**

In compliance with the duty of disclosure set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.56, Applicants are submitting herewith a Form PTO/SB/08A and a copy of the references listed thereon. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the filing date of the application. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97(c)(2). The Commissioner is authorized to charge the required fees to deposit account no. 500326.

Applicants respectfully request full and proper consideration of the listed information during examination of the application, and that the listed information be printed on any patent that issues therefrom.

Respectfully submitted,



Robert W. Mason

Reg. No. 42,848

Attorney for the Applicant

Telephone: (210) 255-6271

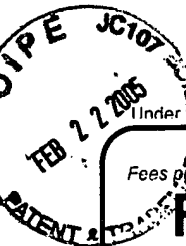
Facsimile: (210) 255-6969

Enclosures: Form PTO/SB/08A (6 pages)

Copies of non-US Patent references listed on Form PTO/SB/08A

Return Receipt Postcard

Transmittal & Transmittal Fee Form



Effective on 12/08/2004.

Fees pursuant to the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2005 (H.R. 4818).

**FEE TRANSMITTAL  
For FY 2005**☐ Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27TOTAL AMOUNT OF PAYMENT (\$) 180.00**Complete if Known**

Application Number	09/937,937
Filing Date	October 2, 2001
First Named Inventor	HANNIGAN, et al
Examiner Name	LEWIS, Kim M.
Art Unit	3743
Attorney Docket No.	VAC.482.US

**METHOD OF PAYMENT (check all that apply)**☐ Check ☐ Credit Card ☐ Money Order ☐ None ☐ Other (please identify): \_\_\_\_\_☒ Deposit Account Deposit Account Number: 500326 Deposit Account Name: Kinetic Concepts, Inc.

For the above-identified deposit account, the Director is hereby authorized to: (check all that apply)

☒ Charge fee(s) indicated below ☐ Charge fee(s) indicated below, except for the filing fee☒ Charge any additional fee(s) or underpayments of fee(s) under 37 CFR 1.16 and 1.17 ☒ Credit any overpayments

WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.

**FEE CALCULATION****1. BASIC FILING, SEARCH, AND EXAMINATION FEES**

Application Type	FILING FEES		SEARCH FEES		EXAMINATION FEES		Fees Paid (\$)
	Fee (\$)	Small Entity Fee (\$)	Fee (\$)	Small Entity Fee (\$)	Fee (\$)	Small Entity Fee (\$)	
Utility	300	150	500	250	200	100	
Design	200	100	100	50	130	65	
Plant	200	100	300	150	160	80	
Reissue	300	150	500	250	600	300	
Provisional	200	100	0	0	0	0	

**2. EXCESS CLAIM FEES**

Fee Description	Fee (\$)	Small Entity Fee (\$)
Each claim over 20 (including Reissues)	50	25
Each independent claim over 3 (including Reissues)	200	100
Multiple dependent claims	360	180
<b>Total Claims</b>	<b>Extra Claims</b>	<b>Fee (\$)</b>
- 20 or HP =	x	=
HP = highest number of total claims paid for, if greater than 20.		
<b>Indep. Claims</b>	<b>Extra Claims</b>	<b>Fee (\$)</b>
- 3 or HP =	x	=
HP = highest number of independent claims paid for, if greater than 3.		

Fee (\$)	Small Entity Fee (\$)
50	25
200	100
360	180
<b>Multiple Dependent Claims</b>	
<b>Fee (\$)</b>	<b>Fee Paid (\$)</b>

**3. APPLICATION SIZE FEE**

If the specification and drawings exceed 100 sheets of paper (excluding electronically filed sequence or computer listings under 37 CFR 1.52(e)), the application size fee due is \$250 (\$125 for small entity) for each additional 50 sheets or fraction thereof. See 35 U.S.C. 41(a)(1)(G) and 37 CFR 1.16(s).

Total Sheets	Extra Sheets	Number of each additional 50 or fraction thereof	Fee (\$)	Fee Paid (\$)
- 100 =	/ 50 =	(round up to a whole number) x	=	

**4. OTHER FEE(S)**

Non-English Specification, \$130 fee (no small entity discount)

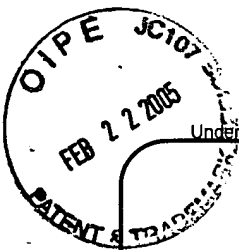
Other (e.g., late filing surcharge): Late surcharge fee for filing Supplemental IDS

**Fees Paid (\$)**180.00**SUBMITTED BY**

Signature	<u>Robert W. Mason</u>	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	42,848	Telephone	210 255 6271
Name (Print/Type)	Robert W. Mason	Date	<u>2/18/05</u>		

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.136. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 30 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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**TRANSMITTAL  
FORM**

(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)

Total Number of Pages in This Submission

Application Number	09/937,937
Filing Date	October 2, 2001
First Named Inventor	HANNIGAN, et al
Art Unit	3743
Examiner Name	LEWIS, Kim M.
Attorney Docket Number	VAC.482.US

**ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)**

- |  |  |   |
|--|--|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form<br><input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached<br><input type="checkbox"/> Amendment/Reply<br><input type="checkbox"/> After Final<br><input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s)<br><input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request<br><input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request<br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement<br><br><input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s)<br><input type="checkbox"/> Reply to Missing Parts/<br>Incomplete Application<br><input type="checkbox"/> Reply to Missing Parts<br>under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53 | <input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s)<br><input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers<br><input type="checkbox"/> Petition<br><input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a<br>Provisional Application<br><input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation<br>Change of Correspondence Address<br><input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer<br><input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund<br><input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s) _____<br><input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Table on CD | <input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to TC<br><input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board<br>of Appeals and Interferences<br><input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to TC<br>(Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief)<br><input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information<br><input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter<br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify<br>below):<br>Information Disclosure Statement Under 37<br>CFR §1.97 with copies of foreign patents and<br>non patent literature documents<br>Acknowledgment Postcard |
|--|--|---|

Remarks

**SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT**

Firm Name	Kinetic Concepts, Inc.		
Signature	<i>Robert W Mason</i>		
Printed name	Robert W. Mason		
Date	2/18/05	Reg. No.	42,848

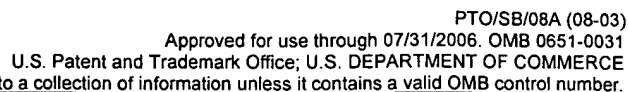
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Signature	<i>Robert W Mason</i>		
Typed or printed name	Robert W. Mason	Date	2/18/05

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Substitute for form 1449/PTO

*(Use as many sheets as necessary)*

Sheet	1	of	6
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**Complete if Known**

Application Number	09/937,937
Filing Date	October 2, 2001
First Named Inventor	HANNIGAN, et al
Art Unit	3743
Examiner Name	LEWIS, Kim M.
Attorney Docket Number	VAC.482.US

## U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

[illegible]

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>6</sup>
		Country Code <sup>3</sup> *Number <sup>4</sup> *Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)	MM-DD-YYYY			
		AU-550575-A1	08-26-1982	Wright	P.4, lines 7-10	
		EP-0100148	02- 1984	Naylor, et al	Abstract	
		WO 96/05873	02-29-1996	Lina		
		WO 97/18007	05-22-1997	Hunt		
		EP-0161865	11-21-1985	Ward		
		EP-0117632-A2	01-1984	JMcCracken		

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
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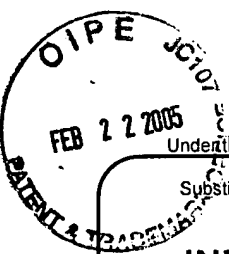
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## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

*(Use as many sheets as necessary)*

Sheet	4
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of 6

**Complete if Known**

Application Number	09/937.937
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Filing Date	October 2, 2001
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First Named Inventor	HANNIGAN, et al
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Art Unit	3743
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Examiner Name	LEWIS, Kim M.
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Attorney Docket Number	VAC.482.US
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## U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

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## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>6</sup>
		Country Code <sup>3</sup> -Number <sup>4</sup> -Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)	MM-DD-YYYY			
		WO 93/09727	05-27-1993	Wake Forest Un.		
		GB-2 197 789 A	06-02-1988	Smith Industrie		
		EP-0358 302	03-14-1990	Smith Industrie		
		DE 26 40 413 A1	03 09 1978	Wolf, Richard		
		EP 1 018 967B1	08-18-2004	Heaton, Keith		

Examiner  
Signature

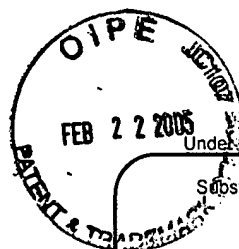
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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

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Sheet 5

of 6

**Complete if Known**

Application Number	09/937,937
Filing Date	October 2, 2001
First Named Inventor	HANNIGAN, et al
Art Unit	3743
Examiner Name	LEWIS, Kim M.
Attorney Docket Number	VAC.482.US

**U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)			
		US- 5,437,622	08-01-1995	Carion, Jean-Pierre	
		US- 6,345,623	02-12-2002	Heaton, K., et al	
		US- 6,553,998	04-29-2003	Heaton, K., et al	
		US- 6,814,079	11-09-2004	Heaton, K., et al	
		US- 5,437,651	08-01-1995	Todd, R., et al	
		US- 5,549,584	08-27-1996	Gross, James R.	
		US- 5,134,994	08-04-1992	Say, Sam L.	
		US- 4,710,165	12-01-1987	McNeil, C.B., et al	
		US- 3,520,300	07-14-1970	Flower, Guiles	
		US- 4,758,220	07-19-1988	Sundblom, L., et al	
		US- 5,279,550	01-18-1994	Habib, Magdi, et al	
		US- 5,092,858	03-03-1992	Benson C.D., et al	
		US- 5,086,170	02-04-1992	Luheshi A., et al	
		US- 5,278,100	01-11-1994	Doan, T., et al	
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**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

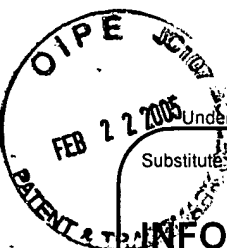
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>6</sup>
		Country Code <sup>3</sup> - Number <sup>4</sup> - Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)				

Examiner  
SignatureDate  
Considered

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Art Unit	3743
Examiner Name	LEWIS, Kim M.
Attorney Docket Number	VAC.482.US

Sheet 6

of 6

**NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T <sup>2</sup>
		International Search Report for PCT international application PCT/GB95/01983; November 23, 1995	
		Patent Abstract of Japan; JP4129536; Terumo Corporation; April 30, 1992	
		PCT International Search Report; PCT international application PCT/GB98/02713; June 8, 1999	
		PCT Written Opinion; PCT international application PCT/GB98/02713; June 8, 1999	
		PCT International Examination and Search Report, PCT international application PCT/GB96/02802; Jan. 15 1998 and April 29, 1997	
		PCT Written Opinion, PCT international application PCT/GB96/02802; September 3, 1997	

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